



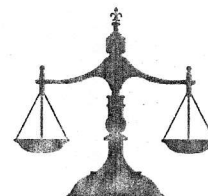
City of Taunton

LAW DEPARTMENT

141 Oak Street

Taunton, Massachusetts 02780

Phone (508) 821-1036 Facsimile (508) 821-1064



Thomas C. Hoye, Jr.
MAYOR

Jason D. Buffington
CITY SOLICITOR

Daniel F. de Abreu
ASST. CITY SOLICITOR

March 9, 2012

The Honorable Thomas C. Hoye, Mayor
The Honorable Ryan C. Colton, President
Members of the Municipal Council
141 Oak Street
Taunton MA 02780

RE: Proposed Mashpee Wampanoag Destination Resort Casino

Dear Mayor Hoye, President Colton, and Members of the Municipal Council:

Based on my recent contact with representatives of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, it is my expectation that the City will receive in the very imminent future a request from the Tribe for the City to schedule an election for the approval of their proposed tribal gaming development. I wanted to alert you to this at the earliest possible moment and I therefore respectfully request that you place this matter on the agenda for your consideration at the March 13, 2012 meeting of the Municipal Council.

Please know that Mayor Hoye has instructed this office to enter into negotiations with the Tribe for a preliminary agreement. The purpose of such an agreement would be to ensure that the Tribe, and not the City, pays for the City's consultant and outside legal costs in assessing the impact of this proposal on our community and in negotiating an intergovernmental agreement with the Tribe to address those impacts and provide host community benefits. As of today, I am reasonably confident that we will be able to successfully negotiate such an agreement prior to any vote being taken to schedule an election.

Please feel free to contact this office at any time with any questions that you may have. Thank you, as always, for allowing our office to be of service to you and the people of Taunton.

Very truly yours,

Jason D. Buffington, Esq.
City Solicitor